

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A support constructed to be connected with for a predetermined container of the type having an upper rim formation extending about a top portion that is open or constructed to be opened at its top opening, the support comprising:

a surrounding structure having a supporting ring constructed to surround and interfit with the upper rim formation of the container[[,]] to suspend the container with its contents, the surrounding structure being shallow, having an axial dimension substantially less than its lateral dimensions and

wherein [[a]] at least one flexible suspender suspending element[[,]] that is integrated with the surrounding structure and is deflectable from its formed position to an upstanding position in which it is capable of carrying weight of the container constructed and arranged to suspend the surrounding structure and, thereby, the container, the suspending element having an as-formed position in which the suspending element lies generally within the surrounding structure, extending from at least one root that either directly or indirectly is in supporting relation with the surrounding structure, to a free portion, the free portion of the suspending element arranged to be lifted from the as-formed position to a raised operating position for engagement by a carrier, thereby to suspend the container by its upper formation in a position below the carrier for display or transport, the at least one suspending element and the surrounding structure being so cooperatively related that lifting the free portion of the at least one suspending element relative to the surrounding structure to raised operating position and applying container-suspending force to the raised portion does not disturb the connection of the surrounding structure of the support with the upper formation of the predetermined container with its contents.

2. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the at least one suspender suspending element extends as an elongated cantilever from its at least one root ~~a root region located adjacent the supporting ring~~ to a free terminal end.

3. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~[[2]]~~ combined with a predetermined container, in which the ~~supporting ring~~ surrounding structure of the support is constructed to interfit with ~~the ring~~ an upper formation of a predetermined wide mouth ~~the container that extends about a top portion that is open or constructed to be opened. having a rim at its top opening.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the at least one suspender ~~suspending element~~ is of sheet form.

5. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~[[3]]~~ comprising a molded unit.

6. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 [3] wherein the ~~suspender extends from a flexible~~ at least one root is joined directly to region ~~located adjacent the surrounding structure~~ support ring.

7. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~[[2]]~~ in which the ~~suspender comprises~~ suspending element is an elongated flexible suspender constructed and arranged to provide container-suspending force that is off center to the surrounding structure ~~offset lift to~~ impart a substantial tilt to the container when the container is supported by the ~~suspender~~ suspending element.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the surrounding structure has an axis and at least one suspending element in its formed position lies parallel with

and along or between parallel limiting planes that are perpendicular to the axis and projected through upper and lower outer surfaces of said surrounding structure. ~~supporting ring.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 2 in which there is a single suspending element, the suspending suspender element is a finger suspender having an axis of elongation and comprising at least ~~[[a]]~~ one flexible root region of relatively short extent extending along said axis of elongation, a main body of substantially greater extent than the root along said axis, and a free terminal end shaped to receive a supporting finger.

11. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 10, in which said main body comprises an elongated leg portion, the free terminal end comprising a head defining a finger engageable formation.

12. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 11, in which said leg portion is of lesser lateral extent than said head ~~root portion and the finger engageable formation.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 10 ~~[[11]]~~, the finger suspender being of sheet form and said finger engageable formation comprising an opening in the free terminal ~~distal~~ end of said finger suspender sized to receive a finger.

14. (Currently Amended) The support of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1 in which the suspending element suspender is molded monolithically with the surrounding structure ring.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~14~~ in which the surrounding structure supporting ring is part of an overcap or lid for the predetermined container.

17. (Currently Amended) The support of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1 in which the suspending element is joined directly, ~~supporting ring has an axis of symmetry and the suspender is an elongated, flexible suspender joined to said ring asymmetrically to said surrounding structure~~

~~with respect to said ring in manner to cause the container supported by said ring to hang at an angle.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 17, in which said suspending element is a finger flexible-suspender ~~is secured-joined~~ to said ring surrounding structure at a single root region.

19. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 17 in which said suspending element flexible suspender is joined ~~secured~~ to said ring surrounding structure at a plurality of spaced apart roots regions.

20. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 19 in which said suspending element flexible suspender is a finger suspender.

21. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 19 in which said suspending element flexible suspender is a flexible bail joined asymmetrically to said supporting structure.

22. (Withdrawn) The support of claim ~~2~~ 1 or 20 in which the suspending suspender element defines at least two finger engageable formations, a first of said formations being spaced closer to the at least one base root of the suspending suspender element than a second of said formations.

23. (Withdrawn) ~~[[A]]~~ The support of claim 1 for a container comprising two of said flexible suspending elements, finger suspenders, the suspending elements joined at respective roots to the supporting structure, integrated with an overlap, the free portions ends of the suspending elements comprising formations that have suspenders having a range of movement that enables them to be engaged and supported together by a finger.

24. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 23 wherein, in ~~its~~their as-formed position, the flexible suspending elements are substantially planar finger suspenders that lie ~~in a plane in~~ nested relationship fusion.

25. (Withdrawn) The support of claims 23 or 24 in which each of the suspending elements extends to a free terminal end defining a finger-engageable portion, the suspending elements having comprising a pair of finger suspenders formed within a rim, the axes of extension of the suspenders being that are curved, the finger engageable formations of the suspenders suspending elements being aligned on a first line diameter and respective roots base of said suspenders suspending elements lying on being aligned with respect to a second diameter line that forms a substantial angle with the first line diameter.

26. (Currently Amended) The support of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 in which said cantilever suspending suspender element is at least two inches long.

27. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 2 ~~[[1 or]]~~ in which the suspending suspender element has a length exceeding ~~the radius or one half the~~ a lateral dimension of the supporting ring surrounding structure.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the supporting surrounding structure is constructed to have a snap fit relationship ~~[[to]]~~ with the upper formation of the container.

30. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the surrounding structure supporting ring is constructed to have ~~[[has]]~~ a friction fit with the~~[[a]]~~ rim upper formation of the container.

31. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the suspending element is constructed and adapted to be interfit with another suspending element support of like construction, each the suspending suspender element being free-ended and having a free terminal end in the form of a head defining an opening, the head of one of said suspending suspender element of a size that can constructed ~~[[to]]~~ be threaded through the opening ~~of the other~~ of said suspending suspender element to enable containers having carrying said supports of like construction supports to be strung together.

32. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 31, in which the opening in the head includes a head-passage slot that provides an enlargement in one orientation sized to pass the aligned head of another such suspender.

33. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the supporting ring surrounding structure has an opening in its center region for viewing the contents of the container.

34. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 33 combined with in which a clear plastic film or sheet sized and constructed to extend across the upper formation of the predetermined container forms a seal with the mouth of the container or forms a seal with a rim of the lid or ring.

35. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 1 combined with a said predetermined container, in which the surrounding structure of the support is connected with the upper formation of the container at a connected region and including a heat shrunk band of plastic is engaged about the exterior of the joint connected region, engaging upon both between the supporting ring surrounding structure of the support and the container.

36. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in combination associated with a clear film, foil or opaque closure element constructed eever arranged to seal an opening within the upper formation of the predetermined container.

37. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which ~~the supporting ring~~ include a preformed closure element insert is supported by the surrounding structure of the support, forming a lid or overcap for the predetermined container.

38. (Currently Amended) The support of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 37 combined with a said predetermined container, the container having a mouth opening within its upper formation, and in which said closure element insert is larger in diameter than the opening of the mouth of the container and arranged to be compressed against an outer edge of the upper formation the mouth of the container to form a seal.

39. (Currently Amended) The support of claims 37 or 38 in which the surrounding structure is a molded formation and in which said closure element insert (C2) is joined with the ring surrounding structure as a result of the surrounding structure being molded about a peripheral portion of the insert.

40. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 37 in which said closure element insert is joined to an the underside of a rim of said surrounding structure ring.

41. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 40 in which said closure element insert is adhesively joined to said underside of said surrounding structure ring.

42. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 37 in which said closure element is snap fit with respect to a support flange molded on the inside of the surrounding structure ring.

43. (Withdrawn) The [[In]] combination of claim 3, a package comprising: a of greater than 5 cm (two inches) minimum horizontal dimension at its mouth which is closed at least in part by a removable lid or a supporting ring, the container having an upstanding wall[[,]] extending from a bottom to an upper formation defining a wide mouth at the top of the container, the mouth being about as wide as the maximum horizontal cross-section of the container and greater than 5 cm (two inches) minimum dimension the wide mouth defined by a relatively

~~thick rim formation and the lid or supporting ring having portion surrounding structure of the support extending over and removably engaged with the rim upper formation of the container to form at least part of an attachment of the lid or supporting ring to the container, said lid or supporting ring of the container and its attachment being constructed to support the container and its contents; and~~

~~a flexible suspender extending from the lid or supporting ring and arranged to be engaged by a support element such as a rod or hook of a product display, the suspender having a length of about 2 inches or more, such that when engaged by said support element, the container having a tilt angle.~~

44. (Withdrawn) ~~[[In]]~~ The combination of claim 43, a disposable package with consumable contents formed with the support of any of the foregoing claims 1-42 and a said container, or the combination of claim 43, wherein the upper formation of the container is of greater than 5 cm (2 inches) minimum horizontal dimension at its mouth, the container mouth engaged by the removable lid or supporting ring surrounding structure of the support, as by snap fit, and the suspender at least one suspending element being constructed and arranged to enable the container to be suspended by its lid for display and transport by the finger of a hand.

45. (Withdrawn) The disposable combination of claim 3 forming a package which includes with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise comprising food such as in the form of one of dried soup[[s]], cereal[[s]], spice[[s]], grains, legumes, dried fruits, cookies, crackers, coffee in bean or ground form, nuts, snacks, popcorn, candy, yogurt, ice cream, butter, frozen juice concentrate, cheese dips and condiment[[s]].

46. (Withdrawn) The disposable combination of claim 3 forming a package which includes with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise comprising tennis balls.

47. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ combination of claim 3 forming a package which includes with consumable contents of claim 44 ~~wherein the contents comprise~~ comprising wrapped chocolate truffles.

48. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ combination of claim 3 forming a package, with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the container is of thermally insulated construction, ~~and the contents comprise~~ the package including hot or cold contents in the form of one of such as hot soup, hot coffee, cold drink[[s]], ready-to-eat food[[s]], ice cream or yogurt in single serving[[s]] or a larger quantities quantity.

49. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ combination of claim 3 forming a package which includes with consumable contents of claim 44 ~~wherein the contents comprise~~ comprising hardware supplies or light bulbs.

50. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ combination of claim 3 forming a package which includes contents with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-49 and including a tamper-evident feature.

51. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ package of claim 50 wherein said tamper-evident feature is a portion of heat shrunk film disposed about surrounding said ~~lid or ring~~ surrounding structure of the support and the, preferably the heat shrunk film surrounding mating rim upper formation ~~portions of the body of the container and its lid or supporting ring to add strength and stability to the connection.~~

52. (Withdrawn) The ~~disposable~~ package of claim 50 ~~or 51~~ in which the support is constructed to permit visibility of a mouth defined by the upper formation of the container ~~the lid or support ring is at least partially transparent and a tamper-evident feature is a closure of the mouth of the container visible therethrough~~ through the support.

53. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 3 forming a disposable package with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-52 wherein the lid or supporting ring is constructed to provide vision access to the goods within permit vision of contents through a mouth defined by the upper formation of the container.

54. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 3 forming a disposable package containing contents, in combination with a display device, with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-53 wherein the package is the package being suspended by its at least one suspending element assembled on the display device on a single or multi-tier counter rack, tree display, horizontal or vertical line of hooks or a display rod, useful, for instance, in space limited stores, counters or kiosks.

55. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 3 forming a package in combination with a display device, wherein support claim 1 assembled with a container to form a package the display device is disposed at an elevated location relative to a customer location, the package being constructed to hang from the display device by a said suspending element suspender of the support at a tilt angle, said package hanging hung by the suspending element at said tilt angle suspender from the [[an]] elevated location relative to the [[a]] customer location such that the tilt angle so situates the side of the container that it faces the customer location for notice or reading of print on the side of the package.

56. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 1 assembled with a container to form a package combination of claim 3 forming a package containing contents, in combination with a display device, wherein the display device is disposed at a location below eye level relative to a customer location, the package being constructed to hang from the display device by a said suspending element of the support suspender at a tilt angle, said package hanging hung by the suspending element at said tilt angle suspender at the [[a]] location below eye level relative to [[a]] the customer location, such that the tilt angle tilts the top of the container [[in]] toward the customer location for notice or reading of print on the top of the package.

57. (Withdrawn) The package combination of claim ~~55 or 56~~ 3 in which the container has an upstanding wall ~~[[is]]~~ of a packaging material selected from the group consisting of molded plastic resin, or resinous foam, and ~~with integral sidewalls and bottom or of paper such as drinking cup paper stock, for instance, coffee cup paper stock.~~

58. (Withdrawn) The package combination of claim ~~55 or 56~~ 3 wherein the supporting ring has a depending skirt that is heat-shrunk about the ~~rim region of a~~ upper formation of the container to form an exterior seal.

59. (Withdrawn) The support combination of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3 wherein there is a clear plastic film member that extends across the ~~central portion of container~~ ring to define a viewing window, the film member having a skirt that depends past, and is heat sealed in the region of ~~[[an]]~~ the upper ~~[[rim]]~~ formation of the container.

60. (Withdrawn) The support of claim ~~1 or 2~~ 63, in which the suspending element suspender in its as-formed position, lies outside of a rim of the supporting ring portion.

61. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 60 in which the free distal portion suspending element suspender has a free end is a free terminal end of the element which defines an opening sized to receive a finger.

62. (New) A support constructed to be connected with a predetermined container of the type having an upper rim formation surrounding a top portion, the support comprising
a ring portion of greater diameter than the rim formation of the predetermined container, the ring portion constructed to extend over and connect with the upper rim formation of the container to suspend the container with its contents, the ring portion being shallow, having an axial dimension substantially less than its diameter,
and a flexible suspending element constructed and arranged to support the ring portion and, thereby, the container,

the suspending element having an as-formed position in which the suspending element extends inwardly of, and generally within, the ring portion from a flexible proximal region that is joined to the ring portion to a free distal portion, the free distal portion arranged to be lifted by flexing of the suspending element from the as-formed position to a raised operating position for engagement by a carrier, thereby to suspend the container by its upper rim formation in a position below the carrier for display or transport, the suspending element and the ring portion being so cooperatively related that lifting the distal portion of the suspending element relative to the ring portion to raised operating position and applying container-suspending force to the raised distal portion does not disturb the connection of the shallow ring portion of the support with the upper rim formation of the predetermined container with its contents.

63. (New) A support constructed to be connected with a predetermined container having a generally upstanding upper rim formation of at least two inches diameter, the support comprising

a ring portion of greater diameter than the rim formation of the predetermined container, the ring portion constructed to extend over and connect with snap fit about the rim formation to suspend the container with its contents, the ring portion being shallow, having an axial dimension substantially less than its diameter,

and a single flexible suspending element constructed and arranged to support the ring portion and, thereby, the container, the suspending element having length greater than half the distance across the ring portion, the suspending element having an as-formed, lower position in which the suspending element extends from a flexible proximal region that is joined to the ring portion to a free distal portion, the free distal portion arranged to be lifted by flexing of the suspending element from the as-formed position to a raised operating position for engagement by a carrier, thereby to suspend the container by its upper rim formation in a tilted position below the carrier for display or transport, the suspending element and the ring portion being so cooperatively related that lifting the distal portion of the suspending element relative to the ring portion to raised operating position and applying container-suspending force to the raised distal portion does not disturb the connection of the shallow ring portion of the support with the upper rim formation of the predetermined container with its contents, the suspending element being of

the same material as that of the ring portion, the ring portion and suspending element being of monolithic, molded form.

64. (New) The support of claim 1 in the form of an overcap or lid in which the suspending element within the surrounding structure lies over a central closure portion supported by the structure, the support comprising a pre-formed insert, the supporting structure molded about and bonded to a peripheral portion of the insert as the result of insert injection molding, a part of said support within the surrounding structure being a monolithic molded extension of the molded structure, and a part of said support within the surrounding structure being defined by the pre-formed insert, a selected surface portion of the insert bearing a release varnish preventing bonding of the free portion of the suspending element to the central closure portion that lies below the suspending element.